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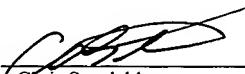
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Komma et al. Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No.: 10/010,721 Group Art Unit: Unknwon  
Filed: November 13, 2001 Docket No.: 10873.850US01  
Title: DIFFRACTION GRATING BODY, OPTICAL PICK-UP,  
SEMICONDUCTOR LASER APPARATUS AND OPTICAL  
INFORMATION APPARATUS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10  
'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV077885498US  
Date of Deposit: March 25, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:   
Chris Stordahl

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner that the US patents US 5,978,404, US 5,956,312 and US 6,130,872 are an English equivalent of the Japanese patents JP 10-149,559, JP 10-64107 and JP 10-319318, respectively.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to

establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

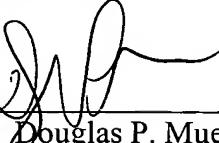
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

By



Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

Dated: March 25, 2002

DPM:hb

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> <small>(Use several sheets if necessary)</small>			Docket Number: 10873.850US1	Application Number: 10/010,721
			Applicant: Komma et al.	
			Filing Date: November 13, 2001	Group Art Unit: Unknown



<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
KL	US 6,130,872	Oct. 2000	Sugiura et al.	—	—	
KL	US 5,978,404	Nov. 1999	Ishihara	—	—	
KL	US 5,956,312	Sep. 1999	Ishihara	—	—	
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
KL	JP 2000-163791	Jun. 2000	Japan	—	—	Abstract / Partial
KL	JP 2000-76689	Mar. 2000	Japan	—	—	Abstract / Partial
KL	JP 10-319318	Dec. 1998	Japan	—	—	
KL	JP 10-321961	Dec. 1998	Japan	—	—	Abstract
KL	JP 10-289468	Oct. 1998	Japan	—	—	Abstract
KL	JP 10-241189	Sep. 1998	Japan	—	—	Abstract
KL	JP 10-149559	Jun. 1998	Japan	—	—	
KL	JP 10-134388	May 1998	Japan	—	—	Abstract
KL	JP 10-64107	Mar. 1998	Japan	—	—	
KL	JP 10-21577	Jan. 1998	Japan	—	—	Abstract
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>						



EXAMINER	Kimberle	DATE CONSIDERED	7/27/2004
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.